

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following one (1) new paragraph on page 4, after line 28:

--Fig. 6 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an operating device according to the present invention.--.

Please add the following one (1) new paragraph on page 7, after line 8:

--Fig. 6 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an operating device for a lifting platform. Fig. 6 illustrates that a housing 1 may be fixed in sunken manner in a floor separate from and adjacent to a vehicle lifting platform 30, which is illustrated schematically.--.